



Water Resources Division's Aquatic Invasive Species of the Week!

FOR THE WEEK OF:

May 27-June 2, 2013

Mystery Snails

INVASIVE Chinese Mystery Snail:

- Adult snails are often **GREATER** than 1.5 inches in length
- Operculum (trap door) present. More rounded than the native brown mystery snail
- Shell is typically light to dark olive green
- Uniform coloring on the shell (no banding)
- Often wider than the brown mystery snail



Photo courtesy of Laura Herman WIDNR

INVASIVE Banded Mystery Snail:

- Often smaller than Chinese mystery snails
- Adult snails can get up to 1.5 inches in length
- Operculum present
- Shells have distinct reddish-brown bands circling the shell
- Often wider than the brown ms



Photo courtesy of Laura Herman WIDNR

Distribution: Sporadic reports throughout Michigan, monitoring for these species has been limited, so many be more common. They are widespread through Wisconsin and likely are in bordering counties in the UP of Michigan.

Mystery: Little is known about the mystery snails in our waters, in particular their locations and ecological impacts.

LOOK-A-LIKE NATIVE Brown Mystery Snail:

- Adults **RARELY** reach 1.5 in length
- Operculum present- "tear drop" shape
- Brown is proportionally narrower than invasives

For more information, please visit the United States Geological Survey's website at: <http://nas.er.usgs.gov/default.aspx>



Photo courtesy of Laura Herman WIDNR